

quate answer—which I am not—I could
 not give it in a few
 minutes. But here is a tentative but
 carefully drafted conclusion
 which will, at any rate serve to start a
 discussion. I believe that
 Soviet Russia, if she can train in citizenship
 and productivity her
 hordes of peasants, say, up to the level of
 her twelve million trade
 unionists—a very big "if"—has solved the
 economic problem.
 This has been done by eliminating the
 profit-making employer,
 and organising production exclusively
 from the standpoint of
 the consumption, by the whole people, of
 the goods and services
 produced by all the workers by hand and
 by brain. Under this
 planned organisation of industry it seems to
 me that the effective
 demand of the consumers will always out-
 reach production—as
 it certainly does in Russia to-day—and
 that the greater output
 due to scientific invention, and extended
 control over nature
 will be continuously absorbed by the
 increased purchasing power
 of the able-bodied inhabitants, all of
 whom, under the Soviet
 system, are either at work or in training.
 Thus there will be
 neither over-production nor under-
 consumption, human faculty
 and human desire will be automatically
 adjusted, in a steadily
 swelling flow of commodities and services,
 checked only by a
 rising demand for increased leisure and
 the personal freedom
 implied in leisure, not leisure of the
 destitute unemployed or
 that of the idle rich, but the leisure which
 has been earned and
 carries with it full maintenance and a
 good conscience.
 Whether this equatorial State—or, as
 the Communists prefer
 to call it, this 'classless society'—will be a
 desirable place to live
 in, whether it will be good or bad, I offer
 no opinion. It is the
 youth of to-day who will have to make the
 necessary efforts and
 sacrifices and risk the consequences, it is
 for them to decide
 'Whether Great Britain?'⁵ In this quest they
 will do well to study,
 alike, in its failures and its success, the
 workaday experiment of
 Soviet Communism.

" Automatic adjustment", here, is the phrase
 that gives one
 pause, and even makes one feel a little
 frightened as to the

security of their description and their
judgement They, of
course, saw, in the mam, institutions, and had
those institu-
tions explained to them by persons working
them, and
believing in them They saw a Plan, and they
like Plani>
are possibly disposed to see a plan and the
execution thereof
as one and the same They found a society
oidered and
categorised, and they love order and run to
categories But